



JUNE, 2020 NEWSLETTER

EASTS BRIDGE CLUB

We encourage the game of bridge in an environment where players compete and develop with enjoyment and mutual respect

STOP PRESS Next Wednesday (3rd June) is a **RED POINTS** event (at no extra cost)

Online Bridge Sessions – Nicoleta shares with us “the good oil”!

So, you made it to **Bridge Base Online**, you have your **BB\$**, where do you start? First thing I would do, I'd go and play a few hands of **Solitaire**, get some practice with the bidding and the play. The robots at the table are pretty good and forgiving, they won't criticise you, no matter what you do.

Next, you should learn to chat to people and make a list of **friends** (or you can just **follow** your favourite players). This will make you feel more at home and every time you log in you'll be able to see which of your friends are online.

If you like some human interaction, go to the **Casual** section and choose a table to play or watch. Note that “Casual” is a separate section of BBO, you won't be able to see if your friends log in and they can't see you either. So, if you want to go back to the Lobby, hit the **Back** blue button at the top left. The black bar at the top will tell you where you are.

There are a lot of things you can do on BBO. I've been there for 15 years and still find new things to do! Still, the best thing to do is to play competitions.

East's Bridge Club together with a few “sister-clubs” are running duplicate sessions four days a week at 1pm, as follows:

East's: Tuesday lightly supervised

East's: Wednesday Pairs

Wollstonecraft: Friday Pairs

Randwick: Saturday Pairs

Our first Red Point session (at no extra cost) on Wednesday June 3rd.

The route to get to the game is

BBO → **Log In** → **Virtual Clubs** → **ABF Australia** → **Pending**

- Have sufficient deposits in BBO of at least BB\$2 to pay for the game.
- Register for the event from 2 Hours before the start with partner on BBO *at the same time*.
- Do not leave registering to the last few minutes as BBO cuts off entries precisely at start time and you cannot enter after that.
- Both members of the partnership must also ensure that they are back on-line (at “home”) at the scheduled start time, otherwise the system will automatically exclude them

For declarer play **Practice**, try BBO's **Bridge Master**. On the home page click on practice, then Bridge Master. Although level 1 is easy, the hands become progressively more difficult as you move to level 2 and higher.

We have now about 50 East's members registered, only half of them playing regularly. We'd like to see more (all?) of them because the future of F2F bridge is still unknown.



Mentors, buddies, and pals

- East's have introduced a **mentor program** so that less experienced players (or even experienced players new to online bridge) can get help. This help includes showing someone the ropes to playing online bridge, playing with them in a supervised session, and then reviewing the results after the session. Thank you to the experienced players who have been mentoring others in recent weeks. If you want to play online bridge and want some help, contact Nicoleta or Allen or send an email to eastbridge@gmail.com. Incidentally, ‘mentors’ are sometimes called ‘buddies’ or ‘pals’, and there is also a role for them to play in face-to-face bridge.



NSW Veterans Pairs

This is a tournament held in July over three two-hour sessions for players who are over 70 years old. Unfortunately, because of coronavirus, this will be held as an online event. Details of the event are on the NSWBA website. There is a maximum of 40 tables, but if you do not get your entry in on time you can join the waitlist.

East's web page

Nicoleta and Nick have done a great job updating our web page with guides to playing online bridge. Please check it out. From last week, results of the online sessions are now published on our results web page. There are also links on the web page to the ABF website which has a daily bridge column and other useful information.



JUNE, 2020 NEWSLETTER.

Page 2

ABF newsletter delivery

The printed ABF is usually only available from the bridge club, but you can always get an online version from the ABF website. During April the latest printed copy has been hand delivered to members in Bondi and Bondi Junction. If you would like a copy, please contact Allen.

VALE

It is with sadness that we note the passing of **Phillip Goldshaft**. Phillip (a former Easts Bridge Club Member) was 103 years old and was playing solid bridge at the Montefiore Home until just before his death

Nick Hughes talks "Garbage"

You normally need about 8 HCP to think of Stayman but sometimes you can do it with a much weaker hand.

Partner opens 1NT and you hold S-Q843 H-T54 D-94543 C-8

Say you choose to pass with your 2 points. A club is led and your hand turns out to be useless, making no tricks. Partner scrambles four tricks from her hand for 3 off.

Bad luck that you had such a bad hand. True, bad for notrumps but not so bad in a suit contract.

Better is to bid Stayman and pass whatever partner bids. If it's 2D or 2S, you're laughing. Either of those spots rates to be much better than 1NT.

What if partner bid 2H, as you half expect? That might be okay too, again probably better than 1NT.

Partner's hand

S-A7 H-AJ82 D-AT7 C-A963

Partner made just the four aces in 1NT. In 2H, partner will make at least six tricks - maybe seven - by ruffing some clubs in your hand. No great success but better than 3 off in 1NT.

Here's a tip. "Never pass 1NT with a singleton club, even with a weak hand." Either transfer, or bid **Garbage Stayman**.



Etiquette on BBO

All the players should have their name on the details window. If you forgot to do it, go to *Account* and fill in the "Real Name"

When you go to a new table or opponents come to yours, greet them.

When you have to leave, give the others one board notice, like "sorry, next is my last board" or similar.

Abbreviations used on BBO:

Pd=partner
Opp=opponent(s)
gl = good luck
glp = good luck partner
ty = thank you
typ = thank you partner
wdo = well done opponents
np(p)=no problem (pd)
lol = laugh out loud
rofl = roll on floor laughing
wb=welcome back
brb=be right back
bfn=bye for now
F2F: face to face
gtg:=Got to Go
CC: Convention Card

How to make suit symbols in your chat:

!s = spade
!h = heart
!d = diamond
!c = club

Survey coming to you soon

The Australian bridge Federation (ABF) will be conducting a survey of their members soon to help plan the pathway to re-opening bridge clubs. You will probably receive this survey by email, so please respond as soon as you can.

YOUR COMMITTEE... OFFICERS AND KEY CONTACTS

President: : Allen Rosenberg 0408 628 233 allenrosenberg5@gmail.com

Vice President: Thomas Karsai 0417 213 893 thomas@thomaskarsai.com

Honorary Secretary: Theo Mangos 0411 337 539 theosauto2@bigpond.com

Honorary Treasurer Andrew Bell 0402 048 033 abell0054@gmail.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:-

Halina Drwecka: 0413 306 119 halina@jand.com.au

Ted Popper: 0410 162 503 (Marketing & Promotions) tepopper@gmail.com

Terry Anne Maunsell 0419 266 641 terry.maunsell@gmail.com

Shirley Rowan: 0412 150 591 (Welfare of Members) shirley.rowan@gmail.com

Lester Abrams: 0411 055 577 eilest@bigpond.net.au

Matchmaker: Theo Mangos 0411 337 539 theosauto2@bigpond.com

Chief Director: Nicoleta Giura 0414876175 nicoleta@tpg.com.au

Newsletter Editor: Thomas Karsai 0417 213 893 thomas@thomaskarsai.com

